

Amended claims

1. (Original) A control program comprising executable instructions for controlling a software program executing under an operating system, the control program performing a method comprising:

recognizing initiation of a software program instance; and
responsive to the recognizing, generating one or more selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program instance.

2. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recognizing of initiation of a software program instance includes:

causing initiation of the software program instance.

3. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recognizing of initiation of a software program instance includes:

(a) identifying a plurality of data files;
(b) initiating the software program instance for at least a selected data file; and
the step of generating one or more selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program instance including:

(c) generating events corresponding to user inputs of the software program that effect:

loading the selected data file into the software program instance,

performing selected data manipulation operations on data of the selected data file to generate modified data,

saving the modified data in the selected data file, and
closing the loaded data file.

4. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the generating of one or more selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program instance includes:

generating a selected initiation event substantially immediately upon the initiation of the software program instance, the selected initiation event effecting a change in a user interface of the software program instance.

5. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 4, wherein the change in a user interface of the software program instance includes:

disabling at least some user inputs.

6. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the generating of one or more selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program instance includes:

monitoring events to detect a selected event; and

responsive to detection of an occurrence of the selected event, generating a selected control event that modifies a response of the software program instance to the selected event.

7. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 6, wherein the selected event is a dialog window generation event, and the selected control event corresponds to a selected input to the dialog window.

8. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the generating of one or more selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program instance includes:

generating events which modify expand, or limit behavior of a resource that the software program instance accesses.

9. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 8, wherein the resource that the software program instance accesses includes one of:

a user dialog window or object, and

a program menu.

10. (Original) The control program as set forth in claim 1, wherein the generating of one or more selected events that modify, expand, or limit behavior of the software program instance include:

generating an event which causes the software program instance to terminate execution.

11. (Currently amended) A storage medium encoding instructions which when executed on a computer perform a method for controlling an instance of an event driven application program, the method comprising:

monitoring an event queue to detect a selected event associated with the application program instance; and

responsive to detecting the selected event, generating a control event which affects execution of the application program instance.

12. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 11, wherein the selected event is associated with a generation of a user input object, and the control event corresponds to a user input event which the user input object acts upon.

13. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 11, wherein the selected event is associated with a generation of a user input object, and the control event causes at least one user input of the user input object to become inoperative.

14. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 11, wherein the selected event is associated with a generation of a save file dialog object including user input options for saving the file and for exiting without saving, and the control event is a user input event corresponding to the user input option for saving the file.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 11, wherein the selected event is associated with a generation of a save file dialog object including user input options for saving the file and for exiting without saving,

and the control event causes one of the option for saving the file and the option for exiting without saving to be removed from the save file dialog object.

16. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 11, further including:

- detecting initiation of the application program instance; and
- responsive to the detecting and prior to the monitoring, generating an initiating event that causes a user interface of the application program instance to be modified.

17. (Currently amended) A ~~method~~ control program comprising executable instructions for controlling an application program, the control program performing a method comprising:

- detecting an initiation of an instance of the application program; and
- prior to a user input, generating at least one initiating event that is detected and acted upon by the application program or a resource accessed by the application program to affect a user interface of the application program instance.

18. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ control program as set forth in claim 17, wherein the generating of at least one initiating event includes:

- generating an initiating event that is detected and acted upon by a program menu resource to modify menu choices thereof.

19. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ control program as set forth in claim 17, wherein the generating of at least one initiating event includes:

- generating at least one initiating event that disables user inputs;
- generating at least one initiating event that loads selected data into the application program instance;
- generating at least one initiating event that causes the application program instance to perform at least one selected operation on the selected data to produce modified data; and
- generating at least one initiating event that causes the application program instance to save the modified data.

20. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ control program as set forth in claim 17, further including:

monitoring events to detect a selected event; and

responsive to detection of the selected event, generating at least one control event that is detected and acted upon by the application program or a resource accessed by the application program to control execution of the application program instance.

21. (Currently amended) ~~A computer~~ An apparatus comprising:

a computer including (i) an operating system that handles events generated by a user input, by the operating system, or by programs or objects operating under the operating system[[:]] and (ii) an application program operating under the operating system; and

a storage medium encoding instructions which when executed on the computer define a control program operating under the operating system, the control program generating a control event that is detected and acted upon by the application program to cause the application program to perform a selected operation.

22. (Currently amended) The ~~computer~~ apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the control program detects a selected trigger event and generates the control event in response thereto.

23. (Currently amended) The ~~computer~~ apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the operating system maintains an application program event queue for the application program, and the control program monitors the application program event queue.

24. (Original) A storage medium encoding instructions which when executed on a computer in conjunction with concurrent execution of an operating system and a selected program perform a method comprising:

generating events that are received by the operating system and placed into a program event queue associated with the selected program, the selected program performing predetermined operations in response to the generated events, the

predetermined operations producing a desired modification in an execution of the selected program.

25. (Original) The storage medium as set forth in claim 24, wherein the method further includes:

monitoring the program event queue to detect an occurrence of a trigger event, the generating of events being performed responsive to the notification.

26. (Currently amended) A storage medium encoding instructions which when executed on a computer perform a method for controlling execution of a selected application operating in an operating system environment loaded onto the computer that maintains an application event queue associated with the selected application, the method comprising:

inserting one or more control events into the application event queue, the one or more control events producing a predetermined response by the selected application or a resource accessed by the selected application.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 26, wherein the operating system environment is a Windows based operating system environment, the method further including:

prior to the inserting, monitoring a task list maintained by the Windows operating system; and

detecting an initiation of execution of the application based on the monitoring, the inserting being performed responsive to the detecting.

28. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 27, wherein the predetermined response by the selected application includes shutting down the selected application.

29. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ storage medium as set forth in claim 26, wherein the operating system environment is a Windows based operating system environment, the method further including:

monitoring the application event queue maintained by the Windows operating system; and

detecting an addition of a selected event to the application event queue based on the monitoring, the inserting being performed responsive to the detecting.